

### REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the proposed amendment above and the remarks below.

Claim 24 is herein proposed to be canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. No claims are herein proposed to be amended or added. Therefore, claims 1-23 are pending and are under active consideration.

Claims 1-23 have been allowed.

Claim 24 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) "as being anticipated by Koster et al."

In view of Applicant's cancellation herein of claim 24, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

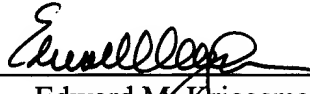
All of the claims that are now pending have been allowed. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this paper that are not accounted for, the Examiner is authorized to charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 11-1755. If a fee is

required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 that is not accounted for already, such an extension of time is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

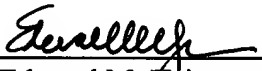
Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 11, 2005

  
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Dated: April 11, 2005